

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /074 W
-----045965 082247Z /64

O 082236Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1221
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01848

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: REVISED TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH
SOUTH AFRICANS

REF: (A) CAPE TOWN 916, (B) USUN 1835

1. CONTACT GROUP CONSIDERED AM MAY 8 THE REVISED TALKING
POINTS AND ASSOCIATED COMMENTS CONTAINED REF A. GROUP
APPRECIATES THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BUT CONTINUES TO BE-
LIEVE THAT WESTERN FIVE APPROACH TO SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD
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BE MADE AT THIS TIME ALONG LINES ORIGINALLY PROPOSED
(REF B). GROUP ALSO BELIEVES THAT TALKING POINTS SHOULD,
DESPITE LIKELY SOUTH AFRICAN RETORT, EXPRESS THE VIEW
OF THE FIVE THAT THERE WAS "NO JUSTIFICATION" FOR THE
SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK ON ANGOLA.

2. THE GROUP HAS REVISED THE ORIGINAL TALKING

POINTS TO REFLECT EMBASSY CAPE TOWN'S SUGGESTED CHANGE (REF A) IN PARA ONE OF THOSE TALKING POINTS AND TO UPDATE THE APPROACH IN LIGHT OF THE CANCELLATION OF THE CONTACT GROUP'S MEETING WITH SWAPO.

3. FOLLOWING IS REVISED TEXT OF TALKING POINTS, AGREED UPON BY CONTACT GROUP AM MAY 8 AD REFERENDUM TO CAPITALS:

BEGIN TEXT:

TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH SOUTH AFRICA ON SECURITY
- COUNCIL RESOLUTION

1. SINCE YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF OUR PROPOSAL, WE HAD ASSUMED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD DO NOTHING INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE PROPOSAL AND THAT YOU WOULD REFRAIN FROM STATEMENTS OR ACTIONS WHICH WOULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR US TO OBTAIN SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE. IT WILL HAVE BEEN CLEAR TO YOU THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH SWAPO AND THE FRONTLINE STATES WERE AT A DELICATE STAGE AND THAT WE WERE WORKING VERY HARD TO GAIN SWAPO'S APPROVAL OF THE CONTACT GROUP'S PROPOSAL FOR A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT.

2. OUR GOVERNMENTS HAVE ALREADY MADE CLEAR TO YOU THE DISMAY WITH WHICH WE LEARNED OF SOUTH AFRICA'S RAID INTO ANGOLA. THAT ACTION HAS SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZED CONFIDENTIAL

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THE PROSPECT FOR GAINING SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL, AND THIS FACT WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY INTERVENTIONS MADE DURING THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE. NO MATTER WHAT SHORT-TERM MILITARY ADVANTAGE THIS MAY HAVE GAINED FOR YOU, THE POTENTIAL POLITICAL LOSSES ARE INCALCULABLE.

3. IT IS WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND THAT THE FIVE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED MAY 6 BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE RESOLUTION EXPRESSED OUR VIEW THAT THERE WAS NO JUSTIFICATION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S ACTION. IT ALSO REFLECTED OUR VIEW THAT A REPETITION OF THIS ATTACK OR OTHER PREJUDICIAL ACTIONS WOULD CREATE A SITUATION WITH GRAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FUTURE OF NAMIBIA.

4. YOUR ACTION HAS THEREFORE SERIOUSLY COMPROMISED OUR EFFORTS. THE FIVE GOVERNMENTS WILL CONTINUE ENDEAVORS TO GAIN EARLY AND FULL APPROVAL FOR OUR PROPOSAL, THOUGH THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT. ALREADY THE SWAPO DELEGATION HAS INFORMED US THAT IT IS UNABLE TO ATTEND TALKS WITH THE CONTACT GROUP AT THIS

TIME IN NEW YORK, AND, ON THE INSTRUCTIONS OF ITS CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HAS RETURNED TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. MR. NUJOMA HAS EXPRESSED HIS CONTINUED DESIRE FOR AN ACCEPTABLE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, LOST VALUABLE TIME, AND THE PRESSURE UPON SWAPO TO ACCEPT OUR PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS GATHERING STRENGTH LAST WEEK, MAY NOW BE DIFFICULT TO RESTORE. IT IS UNREALISTIC FOR YOU NOW TO EXPECT US TO TAKE THIS MATTER TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN THE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF LAST WEEKEND'S EVENTS. INDEED, IN OUR VIEW A SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE AT THIS TIME WOULD BE FUTILE AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO THE WHOLE INITIATIVE.

5. WE HAVE MADE CLEAR IN OUR PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT WE
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1222
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01848

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

BELIEVE YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL WAS SINCERE AND
GENUINE. WE MUST AGAIN STRESS THE NEED FOR SOUTH AFRICA
TO UNDERTAKE NO ACTION INCOMPATIBLE WITH THAT ACCEPTANCE
AND, IN FACT, TO TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TO HELP CREATE A
CLIMATE OF TRUST. FAILURE TO DO SO IS BOUND TO LEAD TO
THE CONCLUSION THAT SOUTH AFRICA, DESPITE ITS ACCEPTANCE
OF THE PROPOSAL, IN FACT SEEKS ITS FAILURE. YOUNG

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